

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02536 01 OF 02 100001Z

67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 OMB-01 SCI-06 ACDA-19

MC-02 SAM-01 NEA-14 DRC-01 /127 W

----- 098497

O R 091830Z MAY 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5566

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USNRM SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2536

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR DATA

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

REF: A) VIENNA 2977; B) USNATO 2418 C) STATE 93115, D) USNATO 2005

SUMMARY: WG IS COMPLETING WORK ON DATA TO BE SUBMITTED TO AHG. STAFF GROUP HAS ALSO CIRCULATED PROPOSED COVER NOTE (TEXT BELOW) EXPLAINING DETAILS AND IDENTIFYING OMISSIONS. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON PREFERENCES ON NEXT STEPS. END SUMMARY

1. FOLLOWING WG DISCUSSION ON MAY 7 OF DATA TO BE SENT TO AHG (DURING WHICH SEVERAL OMISSIONS IN TABLES CAME TO LIGHT), STAFF GROUP HAS NOW CIRCULATED TEXT OF COVER NOTE EXPLAINING TABLES. TEXT (WHICH BEGINS AT PARA 5 BELOW) IS TO BE APPROVED BY SILENT PROCEDURE RUNNING TO NOONTIME 13 MAY. UNLESS OTHERWISE
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 02536 01 OF 02 100001Z

INSTRUCTED WE PROPOSE TO ACCEPT, WITH CAVEAT IDENTIFIED IN PARA 6 BELOW.

2. TABLES ARE STILL BEING REFINED, BUT SHOULD BE READY BY EARLY

NEXT WEEK. US IS NOW ONLY COUNTRY WHICH HAS NOT RESPONDED TO REQUEST ON NATIONAL FORCES, AS CONTAINED USNATO 2005. (FRG RESPONSE IS ENROUTE). FINAL TABLES WILL NOT INCLUDE ALL DATA REQUESTED BY AHG. PRINCIPAL OMISSION IS WP SSM AND HELICOPTER FIGURES, FOR WHICH THERE IS NO AGREED NATO INTELLIGENCE. DATA SUBGROUP CHAIRMAN INFORMS US THAT U.S., UK AND FRG SUBMISSIONS ON THESE UNITS DIFFER SO WIDELY THAT THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY TO RECONCILE THEM WITHOUT HOLDING A SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE.

3. IMS DATA EXPERTS HAVE REMINDED US THAT NATO INTELLIGENCE DIVISION SUPPORTED BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS (NOTABLY DENMARK, BUT PROBABLY ALSO BELGIUM AND NETHERLANDS) ARE OPPOSED TO PROVIDING DETAILED STRENGTH FIGURES BY UNITS TO AHG, ON GROUNDS THAT THEIR USE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EAST WOULD BE PREDJUDICIAL TO NATO MILITARY SECURITY AND COULD COMPROMISE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES. NATO MILITARY IS LIKELY TO WEIGH IN STRONGLY ON THIS QUESTION DURING SUBSEQUENT SPC DISCUSSION OF DATA.

4. NEXT STEP, AS ENVISIONED IN PARA 5 OF REF B, IS FOR SPC TO REVIEW DATA AND CONSIDER POLITICAL ASPECTS, INCLUDING QUESTIONS IDENTIFIED IN PARA 2 OF REF B AND SECURITY QUESTION NOTED ABOVE. WE HAVE NOTED WASHINGTON'S DESIRE (REF C) TO REVIEW DATA PRIOR TO REACHING DECISION ON WHETHER 777,000 NATO FIGURE SHOULD BE CHANGED. SINCE DATA TABLES NOT YET COMPLETED, WASHINGTON REVIEW AND SUBSEQUENT SPC DISCUSSION WOULD DELAY SUBMISSION OF AGREED DATA TO AHG WELL BEYOND MAY 15. FRG DEL HAS TOLD US BONN IS NOT PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT MEETING MAY 15 DEADLINE, PREFERRING THAT ALL QUESTIONS RELATING TO USE OF DATA BE COMPLETED BEFORE LATTER ARE FORMALLY RELEASED TO AHG. WE THEREFORE SEE TWO ALTERNATIVES. FIRST WOULD BE TO HAVE SPC REVIEW FIGURES AND QUESTIONS REQUIRING POLITICAL DECISIONS. ON THIS BASIS, DATA TABLES WOULD BE RELEASED TO AHG FOR INTERNAL USE AROUND MAY 15 BUT WITH CAVEAT THAT FIGURES COULD NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH EAST UNTIL ALLIES IN BRUSSELS HAD DECIDED WHICH FIGURES WERE APPROVED FOR SUCH USE. SECOND ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE FOR SPC TO NOTE WG REPORT, BUT DEFER DISCUSSION OF IT UNTIL CAPITALS WERE READY TO ADDRESS POLITICAL
SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 02536 01 OF 02 100001Z

QUESTIONS. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS ON WASHINGTON'S PREFERENCES BY NOONTIME MAY 13.

5. TEXT OF COVER NOTE FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT

SUBJECT: DATA ON NATO AND WARSAW PACT FORCES

1. RECENTLY EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES IN VIENNA HAVE INSISTED ON DISCUSSING THE APPARENT ANOMALIES IN WHAT ARE CONSIDERED AS GROUND FORCES AND THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THIS MIGHT LEAD DURING THE NEXT SESSION TO MORE DEFINITIVE DATA DISCUSSIONS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE AD HOC GROUP IN VIENNA HAVE REQUESTED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BE MADE AVAILABLE

TO THEM BY 15 MAY, 1974, WHICH THEY WOULD PROPOSE TO USE WITH THE OTHER SIDE UNDER SUITABLE CIRCUMSTANCES:

A. THE CURENT ACCEPTED OR AGREED GROUND FORCES MANPOWER OF NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT. THIS SHOULD INCLUDE SEPARATE TOTALS BY COUNTRY ON EACH SIDE.

B. THE CURRENT ACCEPTED OR AGREED AIR FORCE MANPOWER OF NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT. THIS SHOULD INCLUDE SEPARATE TOTALS BY COUNTRY ON EACH SIDE.

C. IDENTIFICATION OF ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN NATO AND WARSAW PACT GROUND FORCES, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE UNITS, AIR DEFENCE UNITS, AND HELICOPTER UNITS. ESTIMATES OF THESE DIFFERENCES SHOULD BE PROVIDED BY COUNTRY, AS APPROPRIATE FOR EACH SIDE.

2. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE GENERALLY BEEN ABLE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED IN SUB-PARAGRAPHS 1A. AND 1B. ABOVE, WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION AT PRESENT TO PROVIDE THE BREAKDOWN OF SOVIET AND NSWP FORCES IN THE PRECISE DETAIL REQUESTED BY THE AD HOC GROUP. DATA ON THESE FORCES HAVE THEREFORE BEEN PROVIDED IN AGREGATE FORM. IN ADDITION, OWING TO A LACK OF OR LIMITED NATO AGREED DATA, IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE ALL THE INFORMATION CONCERNING WARSAW PACT FORCES AS REQUESTED IN SUB-PARAGRAPH 1C. ABOVE PARTICULARLY THAT CONCERNING:

SECRET

PAGE 04 NATO 02536 01 OF 02 100001Z

- A. PACT GROUND AND AIR FORCES HELICOPTER UNITS;
- B. NON-SOVIET WARSAW PACT GROUND AND AIR FORCES AIR DEFENCE UNITS; AND
- C. NSWP GROUND FORCES SURFACE-TO-SURFACE UNITS.

SECRET

PAGE 01 NATO 02536 02 OF 02 092149Z

67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 OMB-01 SCI-06 ACDA-19

MC-02 SAM-01 NEA-14 DRC-01 /127 W

----- 096737

O R 091830Z MAY 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5567
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USNRM SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 2536

3. THE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, IMS, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING NATO AGREED WARSAW PACT DATA AND OBTAINING UPDATED INFORMATION RESULTING FROM THE INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCES HELD IN APRIL AND OCTOBER ANNUALLY. THE MISSING INFORMATION OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPH 2 ABOVE CANNOT BE PROVIDED BY THE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION AT THIS TIME AND UNLESS A SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE IS CONVENED THIS INFORMATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL NEXT OCTOBER.

4. DATA ON NATO FORCES WAS PROVIDED BY NATIONAL INPUTS IN ANSWER TO A SPECIAL QUESTIONNAIRE.

5. THE MANPOWER STRENGTHS OF THE PEACETIME STANDING FORCES IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA, FOR BOTH NATO AND WARSAW PACT, HAVE BEEN RE-ASSESSED AS AT END-1973, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION. THE RESULTS ARE SHOWN AT ANNEX, WHICH INCLUDES FIGURES FOR AIR FORCE MANPOWER.

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 02536 02 OF 02 092149Z

GROUND FORCES

6. THE TOTAL FIGURE FOR NATO GROUND FORCES IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA (INCLUDING BERLIN GARRISONS AND FRENCH FORCES) IS NOW ESTIMATED AT 798,000 EXCEEDING BY 21,000 THE STRENGTH FIGURE PREVIOUSLY ACCEPTED

FOR PRESENTATION TO THE WARSAW PACT IN MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. THE MAIN CAUSE OF THE INCREASE IS:

A. THE FRG GROUND FORCE FIGURE ASSESSMENT NOW INCLUDES ARMY PERSONNEL IN CENTRAL OR JOINT SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS (I.E. THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, CENTRAL MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE BUNDESWEHR, VOCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT SERVICE AND CENTRAL ARMY AGENCIES).

B. THE NETHERLANDS GROUND FORCE FIGURE INCLUDES APPROXIMATELY 7,000 MEN ON "SHORT LEAVE", THAT IS, PERSONNEL ON ACTUAL UNIT STRENGTHS AS REPORTED IN DPQ BUT WHO HAVE BEEN RETURNED HOME WITHIN THEIR STATUTORY SERVICE TIME. EACH INDIVIDUAL TAKES HOME HIS PERSONAL EQUIPMENT. THOSE ON "SHORT LEAVE" CAN BE RECALLED TO SERVICE WITHOUT AUTHORITY FROM THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE. THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE ON SHORT

LEAVE FOR A TWELVE MONTH PERIOD DURING WHICH TIME THEY DO NOT UNDERTAKE ANY TRAINING AND ARE NOT PAID.

AIR FORCES

7. THE AIR FORCE MANPOWER FIGURES SHOW THE ACCEPTED FIGURES FOR NATO AND THE BEST AVAILABLE ESTIMATES FOR THE WARSAW PACT.

IT IS

EMPHASISED THAT THE PACT ASSESSMENTS ARE NECESSARILY APPROXIMATE, AND BASED (AS FOR PACT GROUND FORCE ASSESSMENTS) ON THE GENERAL ASSUMPTION THAT THE WP UNITS ARE FULLY MANNED AND THAT SIMILARLY EQUIPPED UNITS HAVE THE SAME ESTABLISHMENT. THESE AIR MANPOWER FIGURES ARE THEREFORE ESSENTIALLY ASSESSMENTS OF AUTHORISED RATHER THAN ACTUAL STRENGTHS.

DIFFERENCES IN ORGANISATION

8. THE AD HOC GROUP ALSO ASKED THAT THE DIFFERENCES OF "ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE" BE IDENTIFIED. IN THE CONTEXT, THIS CLEARLY

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 02536 02 OF 02 092149Z

INTENDED TO MEAN THOSE ELEMENTS OF THE FORCES PERFORMING TASKS WHICH ARE UNDERTAKEN BY ARMY UNITS IN SOME NATIONAL FORCES AND BY AIR FORCE UNITS IN OTHERS. THESE CAN BE IDENTIFIED FOR NATO FORCES AND ARE SHOWN AT ANNEX. FOR THE WARSAW PACT FORCES, THE TASK LISTED ARE CARRIED OUT BY THE ARMY OR THE WP AIR DEFENCE ORGANISATION. NO AGREED INTELLIGENCE IS AVAILABLE ON THE DETAILED ALLOCATION OF TASKS OR MANNING LEVELS OF THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE COMPONENTS OF THAT AIR DEFENCE ORGANISATION.

MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF CHANGING NATO'S GROUND FORCE STRENGTHS

9. WE HAVE NOT ADDRESSED THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS FOR NATO WERE THE GENERIC DEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES EXPANDED TO INCLUDE AIR FORCE GROUND ELEMENTS OF AIR DEFENCE, SURFACE-TO-SURFACE UNITS AND HELICOPTER UNITS PRIMARILY TASKED TO SUPPORT GROUND FORCES BUT ARE READY TO DO SO IF THE SPC SO DESIRE.

SECURITY

10. THE WORKING GROUP HAVE NOTED THE EMPHASIS PLACED BY THE INTELLIGENCE SECURITY AUTHORITIES ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ENSURING THAT DETAILS OF STRENGTH FIGURES ARE SO SAFEGUARDED THAT THE WARSAW PACT DO NOT ACQUIRE CLASSIFIED NATO INFORMATION PREJUDICIAL TO MILITARY SECURITY, NOR OBTAIN NATO INTELLIGENCE DETAIL ON PACT FORCES WHICH WOULD COMPROMISE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES.

SUMMARY

11. THERE IS NO MILITARY NOR TECHNICAL OBJECTION, AT WORKING GROUP LEVEL, TO THE RELEASE OF THE FIGURES TO THE AD HOC GROUP

IN VIENNA. WITH REGARD TO THE USAGE OF THE FIGURES, THE WORKING GROUP BELIEVE THAT:

A. THE ADOPTION OF THE REVISED GROUND FORCE FIGURE FOR NATO FOR USE IN NEGOTIATIONS IS A MATTER FOR POLITICAL DECISION.

B. THE CONTEXT IN WHICH OVERALL AIR FORCE MANPOWER FIGURES MAY BE USED REQUIRES POLITICAL DEFINITION.

C. THE ELEMENTS OF NATO AIR FORCES WHICH PERFORM DUTIES CARRIED
SECRET

PAGE 04 NATO 02536 02 OF 02 092149Z

OUT BY WP ARMY PERSONNEL ARE IDENTIFIED AT ANNEX. WE CANNOT AT PRESENT NOR IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS IDENTIFY SIMILAR ELEMENTS ON THE WARSAW PACT SIDE DUE TO LACK OF NATO AGREED INTELLIGENCE. THE VARIATIONS OF ORGANISATIONAL PRACTICE ARE ALREADY KNOWN PUBLICLY. THE DETAILS OF UNIT STRENGTHS OF NATIONAL COMPONENTS IN THIS CATEGORY ARE, HOWEVER, CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.

END TEXT

6. MISSION QUERIED CHAIRMAN, DATA SUB-GROUP'S REASONING FOR INCLUDING PARA 2 B OF TEXT; HE REPLIED THAT MC/61/74 INCLUDED NSWP AIR DEFENSE PERSONNEL, BUT NO UNIT BREAKOUT. MISSION OPINION IS THAT THE AHG MERELY WANT THE AGGREGATE PERSONNEL TOTALS AND THE ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE (I.E., ARE THEY IN THE ARMY OR THE AIR FORCE?) AND THIS INFORMATION CAN BE DERIVED FROM MC/61/74. ON THIS BASIS WE WILL PRESS FOR ELIMINATION OF PARA 2B. MCAULIFFE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO02536
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740587/abbryuue.tel
Line Count: 303
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) VIENNA 2977; B) USNATO 2418 C) STATE 93115, D) USNATO 2005
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <07 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR DATA
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO BONN
LONDON
THE HAGUE
VIENNA
USNRM SHAPE
USCINCEUR

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005